



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 151

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2005

No. 95

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and fortress, we look to You for protection. We depend on You to do what is best for our Nation and world and cherish no desire to dictate the terms of Your providence. Gathering strength from the knowledge that You have protected us across the years of our lives, we trust You to remain the author and finisher of our destinies.

We pray today for the Members of Congress as they labor during a time of duress. Strengthen them to strive to preserve in our Nation the values that will keep it great. Renew in them the commitment to keep us one nation, sustained by Your power, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Inspire us all to acknowledge You with our thoughts and deeds so that You will direct our paths. We pray in Your glorious Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 14, 2005.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. SUNUNU thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we will return to Homeland Security appropriations in just a few minutes. Last night, we entered into an agreement to provide for a series of five stacked votes beginning at 10 a.m. The first vote will be normal in length; however, the remaining votes in the series will be limited to 10-minute lengths. Senators should remain in or close to the Chamber for the purposes of voting. The two managers expect to stack other votes on amendments that are ready to be disposed of. We will announce shortly whether those will be added to the current list or if we will debate additional amendments and stack them for later this morning. It is possible to finish the Homeland Security bill today or this evening. We can do that if Senators cooperate over the course of the day.

We have other important appropriations bills to consider as well as other legislative matters, executive items, over the course of the next couple of days. In all likelihood, we will go to foreign operations tomorrow, assuming—and I hope—we will finish Homeland Security today.

I will turn to the Democratic leader, and then I have a few words on port security.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

COOPERATION OF SENATORS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say this to my colleagues or their staffs watching. We have spent considerable time on this bill. Yesterday was a little disjointed because of the funeral of Gaylord Nelson and the space shuttle blastoff that did not occur. We had a number of Senators who had gone to both of those events.

Under the order now before the Senate, the leader and I have the ability to offer amendments. I have one Senator who has come to me, and I think the amendment he has asked that I offer is appropriate, and I will do that. I will confer with Senator JUDD GREGG before I offer that amendment.

All good things need to come to an end, and we need to stop any amendments we now have with the dozen pending now. I prevailed upon the majority leader not to file cloture yesterday or Tuesday. I think that is appropriate.

For Members who have amendments to offer, if they have something they believe is extremely important, they can come to me, and I will make every consideration I can.

It is time we finish this bill. I don't know if we can finish it tonight. I hope we can. The leader said we will stay in tonight and work through as long as we need to. It is my understanding, regardless of what we do tonight, that we are going to try to move to another bill tomorrow, which is fine with me.

I say to my colleagues, if there are Members who have something to say

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S8247